MAR 1 4 2012

SENATE RESOLUTION

URGING THE OFFICE OF PLANNING TO TIMELY CONDUCT AND COMPLETE REGIONAL PLANS AND STUDIES AS REQUIRED BY STATUTE.

WHEREAS, the Office of Planning was established to assist the Governor and the Director of Business, Economic Development, and Tourism: and

WHEREAS, the Office of Planning's purpose is to maintain the overall framework to guide the development of the State through a continuous process of comprehensive, long-range, and strategic planning to meet the needs of Hawaii's people, and provide for the wise use of Hawaii's resources; and

WHEREAS, pursuant to section 225M-2(b)(7), Hawaii Revised Statutes, the Office of Planning is required to conduct regional plans and studies to determine the following:

- The capability of various regions within the State to (1)support projected increases in resident populations and visitors;
- The potential physical, social, economic, and (2) environmental impact on these regions resulting from increases in resident populations and visitors; and
- (3) The maximum annual visitor carrying capacity for the State by region, county, and island; and

WHEREAS, the Office of Planning is directed to conduct these regional plans and studies at appropriate intervals, but not less than once every five years; and

WHEREAS, these plans and studies provide critical data to develop a long-term goal for the State's future; and

WHEREAS, allegedly the Office of Planning has not completed comprehensive, long-range, and strategic planning to meet the needs of the State for the past twenty years; now, therefore,

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BE IT RESOLVED by the Senate of the Twenty-sixth Legislature of the State of Hawaii, Regular Session of 2012, that the Office of Planning is urged to timely conduct and complete regional plans and studies as required by statute to allow future development to benefit the needs of the State; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Office of Planning submit a report of its progress on regional plans and studies to the Legislature no later than twenty days prior to the convening of the Regular Session of 2013; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that certified copies of this Resolution be transmitted to the Governor, Director of the Office of Planning, and Director of Business, Economic Development, and Tourism.

OFFERED BY: